

The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 6016

日一月十西癸未年

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, 10TH DECEMBER, 1873.

三拜禮 號十月二十英 港香

[Price \$2 PER MONTH.]

Arrivals.

Dec. 8, SUNDA, British steamer, 1,650, Fraser, Shanghai 5th December, General P. & S. N. Co.
Dec. 9, VIDAL, French bark, 400, L. Rondeau, from Whampoa.
Dec. 11, BANIAN, British ship, 750, R. E. ALBANY, London 8th August, General RAYNAL & CO.
Dec. 9, H.M.S. gun-vessel KESTREL, 463, Raymond-Bouton, Manila 6th December.
Dec. 9, YORTON, British steamer, 323, Razmussen, Swatow 8th December, General KWOOK ACHENG.
Dec. 9, CHINA, German steamer, 642, P. H. Hennings, Shanghai 6th Dec., General SHIMMSEN & CO.

Departures.

Dec. 9, SIN NANZING, str., for Canton.
Dec. 9, STATESMAN, str., for Saigon, &c.

Clearances.

At THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE,
DECEMBER 9TH.
United Service, str., for Amoy.
Asia, for Shanghai.
Alona, str., for Calcutta.
Glory, str., for Shanghai.

Passengers.

Per Sunda, str., from Shanghai:
For Hongkong—Capt. Stoddard, Messrs. Foss, Lind, J. P. Cullen, P. R. Smith, and Goodwin, Capt. Horatio M. E. P. Anderson, Mrs. S. S. Moore, Miss Baldwin, Messrs. Garis, Plager, and Mr. Powell, Dr. Bridging, Mr. Littlefield, Per Venero—Mr. A. L. Phillips
Per China, str., from Shanghai—
Mr. Beaufort and 47 Chinese.
Per Yellang, str., from Swatow—
58 Chinese.
Per United Service, str., for Amoy—
58 Chinese.
Per Asia, str., for Shanghai—
1 Chinese.
Per Alona, str., for Calcutta—
20 Chinese.

Reports.

The H.M.S. gun-vessel *Kestrel* reports left Manila on 6th December, had moderate monsoon up to the Parac Shoal, then strong monsoon across sea.

The German steamship *China* reports left Shanghai on 6th December, had moderate N.E. monsoon and fine weather throughout; on the 8th at 11 p.m., off Breaker Point, passed an unknown steamer, and at noon, on 9th, the steamer *Makado*.

The British ship *Banian* reports left London on 8th August; spoke the barque *Razmussen*, from London to Moron Bay 19 days out, in 32°11' N., long. 22° West, on 27th August. On 27th November, in company with a Danish brig, painted red, in 25°1 North, 130°38' East.

The British steamship *Sunda* reports left Shanghai on 5th December, on leaving Shanghai had light SE. wind, and made good speed; steamed between Cupihi and Teng-mi Points, name unknown, supposed to be the Kwangtung, on the night of the 8th, and the steamer *Norna*.

The P. & O. steamship *Sunda* reports left Shanghai on 5th December, and N.E. steady winds and fine weather throughout. Passed an steamer between Cupihi and Teng-mi Points, name unknown, supposed to be the Kwangtung, on the night of the 8th, and the steamer *Norna* off Cheling Point.

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Vessels Expected at Hongkong,
(Corrected to Date.)

Per *Sunda*, str., from—
Dungeness, London, Aug. 17.
Aldis Carton, New York, Aug. 12.
Korser, Dundee, Sept. 4.
Aline, Cardiff, Sept. 4.
Civiale, Hamburg, Sept. 5.
Gryfe, London, Sept. 18.
Ingborg, Cardiff, Sept. 22.
Genus, London, Sept. 25.
Peshawar (s.), Southampton, Sept. 25.
Prestwich (s.), Cardiff, Sept. 25.
Nigeria (s.), London, Oct. 4.
Consolation (s.), Glasgow, Oct. 7.
Elise, Cardiff, Oct. 8.
Atlanta (s.), Boston, Oct. 11.
M. A. Holman, Cardiff, Oct. 13.
Cheep (s.), London, Oct. 13.
Redans, Cardiff, Oct. 20.
Star (s.), Liverpool, Oct. 21.
Dawn (s.), Liverpool, Oct. 21.
Viceroy (s.), London, Oct. 21.
Menelaus (s.), Liverpool, Nov. 15.

Auction Sales To-day.

J. M. ARMSTRONG,
At 11 A.M.,
Sunday Naval and Victualling Stores.

OFFICE OF THE CHINA TRADERS'
INSURANCE COMPANY,
(LIMITED)

NOTICE.

On and after the present date, a rebate of thirty-three and one-third per cent. (33 1/3%) will be allowed on all insurances granted by this Company.

By order of the Consulting Committee,
AUGUSTINE HEARD & CO.,
General Agents,

1105 Hongkong, 1st November, 1873.

CHINA AND JAPAN MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

NOTICE.

On and after this date, a brokerage of thirty-three and one-third per cent. (33 1/3%) will be allowed on ALL INSURANCES granted by this Agent.

W. M. PUSTAU & CO.,
Agents,

1181 Hongkong, 13th November, 1873.

JOHN SKINKER, SAN FRANCISCO,
CALIFORNIA.

NOTICE.

sole agent on the Pacific Coast for:
Winchester Repeating Arms and Ammunition, Du Pont's Blasting and Sporting Powder, Lake Superior and Pacific Fuse Company's Safe Fuse. By 721 May 8

BRITISH AND FOREIGN MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned have been appointed Agents at Amoy for the above Company, and are prepared to accept risks by first-class steamer and sailing vessels.

DODD & CO.

On 1897, Aug. 14th November, 1873.

POSITIONAL GOVERNMENT SECURITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

CHAS. R. MORGAN,
Agent.

1996 Hongkong, 1st June, 1873.

BATAVIA SEA AND TRADE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned having been appointed Agents in Hongkong for the above-named Company, are prepared to grant Policies against Sea Risks at current rates.

RUSSELL & CO.

1032 Hongkong, 1st April, 1873.

Banks.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.
PAID-UP CAPITAL.....\$5,000,000 of Dollars.
RESERVE FUND.....\$1,000,000 of Dollars.

Court of Directors.—Chairman—S. D. SLOSSON, Esq.
Deputy Chairman—W. H. FORBES, Esq.
Ad. M. B. B. Esq. [W. L. LEWIS, Esq.
E. N. HALL, Esq. [Thos. Pyle, Esq.
F. H. HORN, Esq. [H. E. HOWELL, Esq.
A. Jones, Esq.

Chairman—James Greig, Esq.
Manager—Shanghai Cameron, Esq.
London Bankers—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.
Interest Allowed.

Our Current Deposit Account at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

Fixed Deposits—
For 3 months 2 per cent. per annum.

Local Bills Discounted.

Debts granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business connected therewith.

Letters of Credit issued.

Acceptances granted on London, and the chief commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

JAMES GREIG, Chief Manager,
Offices of the Corporation,
No. 1, Queen's Road, East.
1862 Hongkong, 2nd October, 1873.

COMPAGNIE DES COMPTES DE PARIS.

INCORPORATED by National Decrees of 7th and 9th March, 1862, and by Imperial Decree of 25th July, 1864, and 31st December, 1866.

RECOGNISED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF 30TH APRIL, 1862.

Frances, £ Sterling.

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....\$8,000,000, B. 260,000.
RESERVE FUND.....\$2,000,000, B. 240,000.

HONGKONG OFFICE—144, Rue Bergere, Paris.
LONDON AGENT—144, Leadenhall Street, E.C.

AGENCIES—At Nantes, Lyons, Marseilles, Roubaix, Brussels, Alexandria, Bombay, Calcutta, Hongkong, Shanghai, Saigon, Saint Denis (Ile de la Réunion) and Yokohama.

FRANCIS DE FOIS GRAS.

LONDON BANKERS—Union Bank of London.

HONGKONG AGENCY.

Interest Allowed.

On current deposit accounts at the rate of 2 1/2% per annum on the monthly minimum balances; 2 1/2% subject to 15 days notice of withdrawal, and 3% subject to one month's notice.

French Deposits.

For 3 months 3 1/2% per annum.

6 " 4 " 3 1/2 "

12 " 5 " 4 "

A. PHILIPPE,
Acting Manager,
Office in Hongkong—Bank Buildings,
Queen's Road, 37 Hongkong, 2nd June, 1873.

THE ANGLO-CALIFORNIAN BANK,
(LIMITED).

412, CALA ST. SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

Lender Officer—3, Angel Court,
New York Agents—J. & W. SHIOMAN & CO., 21, Broad Street.

AUTHORIZED CAPITAL STOCK.....\$8,000,000.

WILL receive Deposits, open Accounts, make Transfers, buy and sell Exchange and Bullion, draw Mortgaged Notes and issue Letters of Credit available throughout the world.

E. G. SMITH, Manager,
by 1887. IGN. STEINHART, Manager.

THE VICTORIA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HONGKONG, LIMITED.

THE Transfer Books of this Company will be CLOSED from the 17th to the 31st instant, both days inclusive.

AGUSTINE HEARD & CO.,
Sole Agents.

1853 Hongkong, 1st December, 1873.

NOTICE.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE Transfer Books of the Company will be CLOSED from the 15th to the 31st instant, both days inclusive.

JAS. B. COUGHTRE, Secretary.

1st 1847. Hongkong, 1st December, 1873.

TRANSATLANTIC FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to accept risks against Fire, subject to a bonus of 20 per cent.

SIEMSSSEN & CO., Agents.

1872 Hongkong, 16th November, 1872.

BY SPECIAL APPOINTMENT
TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR,
AND TO H. I. H. THE GRAND DUKE ALEXIS OF RUSSIA.

T. N. DEISCOLL,
CIVIL, NATURAL MINERAL TAILOR,
WOODEN DRAPER, GARTER HOSIER,
AND GENERAL OUTFITTER.

45 and 47, Queen's Road, next to Oriental Bank. (Post 1821)

MOTIVE.

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To be Let.

TO LET.—
ONE GODOWN.—Apply to THE GREAT
NORTHERN TELEGRAPH OFFICE,
of 1889 Hongkong, 8th December, 1873.

TO LET.—
THE HOUSE now in the occupation of A.
Coxon, Esq.,
Possession may be had in March, 1874.
Apply to

W. H. ALEXANDER,
1m 1900 Hongkong, 8th December, 1873.

TO LET.

NO. 10, UPPER MOSQUE TERRACE,
CORNER HOUSE, with good view;
Four Rooms, two Bath, Dressing Room, Out-
Rooms, Kc., Water and Gas laid on.

Also, No. 5, in the same Terrace.
Apply to

G. LINSTEAD,
1627 Hongkong, 8th December, 1873.

TO LET.

HOUSE No. 19, Stanton Street. Water
laid on.
Possession from the 1st January, 1874.
A. P. ALVES.
if 1978 Hongkong, 8th December, 1873.

TO LET AT MACAO.—
A NICE BUNGALOW situated in a most
atmospheric with or without furniture. Rent
very moderate.

For particulars, address, P. E. DA SILVA,
one of Daily Press Office,
7d 1975 Hongkong, 5th December, 1873.

TO LET.

HOUSE No. 7, Aberdeen Street. Gas and
Water laid on.
Possession from the 1st January, 1874.

Apply to A. P. ALVES.
if 1936 Hongkong, 2nd December, 1873.

TO LET.

HOUSE No. 7 in Caine Road, at present in
the occupation of the Hon. Justice
PAUNCEFORT.

Apply to DAVID SASSOON, SONS & CO.
if 1936 Hongkong, 2nd November, 1873.

TO LET.

TWO large and very nice HOUSES, No. 2
and 3, and a GODOWN, No. 2, on Poey
East, Marine lot No. 65. The House No. 3
with immediate possession; the other, No. 2,
with its Godown, on the 16th December, 1873.

For particulars, apply to the SAXONIAN PRO-
CATION, CHIEF ROAD, NO. 10.
1m 1890 Hongkong, 20th November, 1873.

TO LET.

TWO ROOMS in Nullah Lane. Water and
Gas laid on.
Apply to A. MILLAR & CO.,
Plumbers,
Queen's Road East,
if 1802 Hongkong, 31st October, 1873.

TO LET.

THE "BLUE BUNGALOW" situated at
Albany Road.
Possession from the 1st of November next.
Apply to E. R. BELLIOS.
if 1636 Hongkong, 3rd October, 1873.

TO LET.

With Possession on 1st October.
No. 14, Shulley Street, containing Eight
ROOMS. Rent, \$40 per month.
Apply to R. R. MEDLEN & CO.,
Architects, No. 1439 Hongkong, 2nd September, 1873.

TO LET.

THE HOUSES Nos. 3, 6, and 11 in Seymour
Terrace, 1st Floor, 1st Oct.
DAVID SASSOON, SONS & CO.
if 1338 Hongkong, 15th August, 1873.

TO LET.

COMMODIOUS GODOWN and OFFICE
in Queen's Road.
L. CRAWFORD & CO.
if 1147 Hongkong, 15th July, 1873.

TO LET.

THE CHRONICLE & DIRECTORY
For 1874.

The Publisher requests that those
persons who have not yet returned
the printed forms which have been
sent to them to fill up, will be good
enough to do so, without delay. Any
persons who have recently arrived, and
to whom printed forms have not been
sent, are respectfully requested to forward
their names and addresses as
early as possible for insertion.

Daily Press Office, Dec. 2nd, 1873.

The Daily Press.

NO. ONE, DECEMBER 10TH, 1873.

It may be worth while to make use of the
present period of slackness in matters of
more serious public importance, to call attention
to one of the minor shortcomings in
Hongkong, which has long been a subject of
complaint, and which is easily susceptible of
remedy. There seems to be a want of some
more careful arrangement with regard to the
pullaway boats and smaller craft in the
harbour. The former are constantly in requisition
not only by residents, but by visitors, and
the regular licensed sampan is, therefore,
a matter to which some little attention might
reasonably be devoted. At present, these craft
are the shadiest and most uncomfortable
character conceivable—little better than would
be found in any ordinary Chinese town and by
no means so good as those at Canton. There
is commonly a large family on board, who are
huddled together in defiance of all sanitary
considerations, and the large number of them
who bear the marks of small-pox, are by no
means encouraging to those who are compelled
to make use of the boats. A piece of red cloth placed upon the seat, is considered,
by the owners of the boat, all that is required
to make them the perfection of neatness, and
the question of cleanliness is evidently
deemed by them one which it is needless to take
into any serious consideration. Unfortunately,
however, these simple and unsophisticated views do not quite meet the ideas
of Europeans, who have a prejudice in favour
of a certain amount of cleanliness, and still
greater prejudice in favour of sanitary
precautions. But this matter does not seem
to have attracted the attention of the local authorities, although their regard to
a very similar one—that of chairs—con-
demnable pains have been taken to secure all
reasonable comfort.

It would not seem to be a matter of much
difficulty to make arrangements that, at all
events, some portion of the sampans plying
on the harbour should be more conveniently
fitted, and should be such that Europeans
could use them without feeling that they are
going through an unpleasant, if not dangerous,
experience. Of course, it would not be rea-
sonable to expect that the finest accommoda-
tion could be supplied for the moderate scale
of remuneration provided by Ordinance, but
there could be no reason why a certain num-
ber of sampan owners should not be allowed
to provide superior boats and charge an
extra sum for so doing. As it is, people re-
quiring a sampan have no choice, whereas,
had they the option of paying higher for
something a little more comfortable and
respectable, many would gladly pay double
the present tariff for the advantage. In the
case of chairs, the Authorities will not allow
the coolies to sit in them; but the boats designed
for the public are occupied day and
night. By Chinese of anything but the
easiest habits. There does not appear to
be any reason why similar care should not
be given to the boats as to the chairs, and if
the attention of the authorities be directed
to the matter, we doubt not that an improve-
ment can easily be effected.

There is also a point with regard to the
larger Chinese craft, which calls for some
arrangements before the closing of the
Harbour-Master's office, and even if it is
desired to take a boat to sail as far as Stanley
or Aberdeen, the same obstruction stands in
the way, to say nothing of the fee which
has to be paid. This is an amount of
obstruction which would certainly be
the subject of very grave complaint if
it were found in China, and which seems
to accord very little with the superior
government which we are supposed to
confer on the Chinese, and on which we
are ready to expatriate. This difficulty
could be remedied in a way similar to that
proposed above with respect to the sampans;
that is to say, a certain number of boats
might be licensed, to take people on short
excursions, and be supplied with monthly or
three monthly passes at a fixed rate. If a
somewhat superior class of boat to the
average were provided, this might be made
the means rather of increasing than diminishing
the Government revenue in fees, if indeed,
this point would be worth considering in
view of the convenience which would be
conferred upon the public.

The Ordinance was then passed and num-
bered 17 of 1873. COLONIAL SECRETARY hastened
to send a copy to the Harbour-Master, stating
that he had just received a report from the Har-
bour-Master, stating that he does grant clear-
ances to foreign ships.

GENERAL EXAMINATION OF PERSONS.

This Bill was read for a second time in Com-
mittee. To avoid the impression that the
Magistrate was expected, as a matter of course,
only to examine prisoners, it was proposed
by the Clerk-Judge that after the words "the Magistrate may" should only examine, the words
"if he think fit" should be added.

Mr. MAX observed that this power was an
extraordinary one in the hands of the Magistrate—
as if any prisoner were defended, his Counsel
would always object to questions being
put to him.

The Acting ATTORNEY-GENERAL said, no
doubt, most strongly under the old law.
H.E. the Governor said the effect of the
present Ordinance would be to enable the
Magistrate to overrule such objection.

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Extracts.

PARTED.
No smile of mirth I have had and lost,
Or can have through life more to lose.
From o'er the silent river, crossed
When night and morning meet.
The night is mine, the dim, obscure,
Uncertain light of stars;
The dawn is thine, the perfect, pure,
That gladdens happy souls secure.
Within heaven's pearlly bower,
Loved-drawn for evermore,
To weep with olden sympathy,
I only can say—

You will see tears might cease to fall,
To think forever done,
Or with the tide of human woe,
Is depth and strength thou canst not know,
And therefore canst not weep,
Nor eye of mine can pierce the cloud,
To reach thy raptured ear;
The illusions are too loud,
The choral hymn too dear,
The pause 'twixt symphony and song,
The rippling river still,
Add to my woe,
By every bower that plays among
The overhanging hills.

No smile can win those eyes,
Loved-drawn for evermore,
To weep with olden sympathy,
I only can say—

With every bower that plays among
The overhanging hills.

The human sighs, by human tears,
Are stayed for evermore;

The human wishes, hopes, and fears,
Are all too weak for those bright spheres,

The human life is o'er.

L. E. X.

TOMATOES AND POULTRY.

Having an enormous crop of tomatoes, I have been anxious myself daily for some time past in scattering them about the poultry yard, for the scrabble that ensues is exciting and somewhat comical. I never expected any other result but to get rid of the superfluous fruit, and satisfy the immortal longings of the birds for luscious food and plenty of it. But another and more important result has been obtained. A course of tomato diet contributes in a most decided manner to improve the plumage of the birds, and my hen-millets have acquired a new gloss, and a satiny texture of feather such as I should aim at producing in preparing them for exhibition, but which is now accomplished for me without any trouble by means of this delicious fruit, which must have become a nuisance by its plentifulness unless in this way disposed of. Exhibitors of poultry may herefrom take a hint, for it is an easy to grow tomatoes as scarlet runners, provided only you can plant them on a hot wall; and to get the birds in perfect condition of feather is always of the first importance.—*The Gardner's Magazine*.

LEECHES AS BAROMETERS.

(*The Country*)
When we consider how often anxiety is expressed as to the state of the weather, it would seem probable that an "infallible barometer, which could be obtained at the cost of a few pence," would be looked upon as invaluable, and find a place in every house. Such, however, is not the case; those who patronize this living barometer are "few and far between," and it is with the desire of making others better acquainted with what has been proved to be a most useful aid to weather-wisdom, that the following notes are put together...

This barometer is none other than the common leech, which we are perkins accustomed to look upon with more or less disgust, in spite of the undoubted benefits which its operations bring to us. The post-Cowper was well acquainted with this property of the leech. In a letter to Lady Uxbridge, he says:—"Yesterday it thundered, last night it lightened, and at three this morning I saw the sky as red as a city in flames did make it. I have a leech in a bottle that foretells all these prodigies of convulsions of nature. No—not, as you will naturally conjecture, by articulate utterances of oracular notices, but by a variety of gesticulations which here I have no room to give an account of. Suffice it to say, that no change of the weather surprises him, and that in point of the earliest and most accurate intelligence, he is worth all the barometers in the world. None of them, indeed, can make the least pretence to foretell thunder—a species of capacity of which he has given the most unequivocal evidence."

In Horace's "Everyday Book" there is a letter dated March, 1826, in which the following observations, "made by a gentleman who kept [a leech] several years for the purpose of a weather-glass," are given. The leech was kept in an ordinary eight-ounce bottle, about three parts filled with water, and covered at the mouth with a piece of linen; it was kept in a window, and the water was changed once a week in summer, and every fortnight in winter. His observations coincide so nearly with those which we have ourselves made, that we shall extract them for the benefit of those who may make a similar experiment, so that they may know in advance (what observation would soon teach them) the meaning of the different movements of the prisoner.

"If the weather proves serene and beautiful, the leech lies motionless at the bottom of the glass, and rolled together in a spiral form. If it rains either before or after noon, it is found upright up to the top of its lodging, and there it remains till the weather is settled. If we are to have wind, the poor prisoner gallops through its limpid habitation with amazing swiftness, and seldom rests till it begins to blow hard.

If a storm of thunder and rain is to be expected, the leeches remain at the bottom of the water, and discover very great uneasiness in violent thunders and convulsions. In the frost, as in clear summer weather, it lies constantly at the bottom, and in snow, as in rainy weather, it pitches its dwelling upon the very mouth of the pit."

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